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File: USPT

May 26, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5758328

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5758328 A

TITLE: Computerized quotation system and method

DATE-ISSUED: May 26, 1998

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Giovannoli; Joseph	Saddle River	NJ	07458	

APPL-NO: 08/603906 [PALM]

DATE FILED: February 22, 1996

INT-CL-ISSUED: [06] G06 F 7/06 ^{17 30}

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/26; 705/27

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FIELD-OF-CLASSIFICATION-SEARCH: 395/201, 395/226, 395/227, 395/237, 705/26, 705/27
See application file for complete search history.

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
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<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5077665</u>	December 1991	Silverman	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5309355</u>	May 1994	Lockwood	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5402336</u>	March 1995	Spiegelhoff et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5485370</u>	January 1996	Moss et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5500793</u>	March 1996	Demlog, Jr. et al.	

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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Author unknown, IBNL Announces Signing of More Than \$8 Billion in Buying Power, Business Wire, Nov. 15, 1996.

ART-UNIT: 271

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Cosimano; Edward R.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Groutt; Phillip

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ABSTRACT:

A computerized system for forming a computer based communications network of network members inclusive of network buyers and or network vendors for processing requests for quotation for goods and services through at least one central processing unit including operating system software for controlling the central processing unit, storage means containing the identification of network members, means for network buyers to generate request for quotation for goods and/or services, means for transmitting said request for quotation to said central processing unit, filter means for selecting appropriate network members to receive said request for quotation based on filter conditions defined by the buyer in said request for quotation and/or by the vendor and/or by the central processing unit, means for broadcasting said request for quotation to the network members selected by said filter means and means for responding to the generator of said request for quotation with either a response to said request for quotation or with a list of said selected network members. Filter conditions may define the class of vendors in terms of geographical location, quantity, language spoken, currency, special conditions of sale, and the like.

19 Claims, 9 Drawing figures

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